

August 22, 1999

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Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
Food & Drug Administration  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

Docket #s 98N-1230, 96P-0418, 97P-0197

Dear Sir,

The FDA should put a stop to the egg industry's practice of forced molting, which has been scientifically shown to promote disease by destroying the hens' immune systems. The egg industry forces these hens to starve for up to two weeks, or feeds them nutritionally deficient food and deprives them of water and light, causing five per cent to ten per cent of these chickens to die.

The FDA has the jurisdiction to ban such practices but for some reason refuses to do this, although forced molting is a primary cause of infectious diseases in hens and also in the consumers who eat the eggs produced by these tormented animals.

The FDA was petitioned in April 1998 to ban forced molting, but for some reason feels it is justified in putting consumers at risk. The FDA must grant this petition immediately. The FDA must also do more to put bacteria warning labels on egg cartons and must regulate egg refrigeration temperatures.

Yours truly,

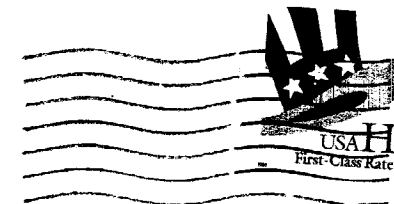
*Holly Waight*

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96P-0418

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CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number:

98N-1230/ C 390

See File Number:

97P-0197/ C 391

96P-0418/ C 390